

DECEMBER 26, 1808.

Read the first and second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

A Bill,

Extending the right of suffrage in the Indiana territory, and for other purposes.



1 *BE it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the*
2 *United States of America, in congress assembled,* That the citizens
3 of the Indiana territory, entitled to vote for representatives to the
4 general assembly thereof, shall, at the time of electing their re-
5 presentatives to the said general assembly, also elect one dele-
6 gate from the said territory to the congress of the United States,
7 who shall possess the same powers heretofore granted to the de-
8 legates from the several territories of the United States: Any
9 thing in the ordinance for the government of the said territory to
10 the contrary notwithstanding.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the sheriffs of the se-
2 veral counties which now are, or may hereafter be established in
3 the said territory respectively, shall, within forty days next after
4 an election for a delegate to congress, transmit to the secretary
5 of the territory a certified copy of the returns from the several

6 townships in their counties respectively. And it shall be the
 7 duty of the governor, for the time being, to give to the person
 8 having the greatest number of votes, a certificate of his election.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That so soon as the ge-
 2 neral assembly of the said territory shall divide the same into five
 3 districts, the citizens thereof, entitled to vote for representatives
 4 to the said general assembly, shall, in each of the said districts,
 5 elect one member of the legislative council, who shall possess the
 6 same powers heretofore granted to the legislative council in the
 7 said territory, and shall hold their offices four years, and no lon-
 8 ger; any thing in the ordinance for the government of the said
 9 territory to the contrary notwithstanding.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the general assembly
 2 of the said territory, shall have power to apportion the repre-
 3 sentatives of the several counties therein, or which may hereafter
 4 be established therein, according to the number of free white male
 5 inhabitants, above the age of twenty-one years, in such counties:
 6 *Provided,* that there be not more than twelve, nor less than nine,
 7 of the whole number of representatives; any act or acts to the
 8 contrary notwithstanding, until there shall be six thousand free
 9 male white inhabitants, above the age of twenty-one years, in said
 10 territory; after which time the number of representatives shall be
 11 regulated agreeably to the ordinance for the government thereof.